



Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to invite you to the second of our two interagency meetings to define the United States' next phase commitment to the clean cooking sector and the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (Alliance).

At our June 12 meeting, my colleagues from the White House, State Department, and I presented the case for why it is so critical for the U.S. to remain engaged in this work. For me, the central proposition is that having launched and built the Alliance – and with the remarkable progress the Alliance has made to date – it is now within reach to truly address these risks at a global scale. The Alliance's Executive Director Radha Muthiah did a magnificent job of clearly laying out the next phase of her strategy to meet their goal of enabling 100 million homes to adopt clean cooking solutions by 2020, as well as how U.S. agency investments are essential to this effort. I was extremely pleased to hear Dr. Holdren express the President's support and expectation for our continued leadership in this work. The State Department's leadership in this work has been essential, and I was pleased to hear our colleagues emphasize not only Secretary Kerry's ongoing support, but the importance of U.S. leadership in this sector to achieve our foreign policy objectives with regard to health, climate, gender, and development.

Our second interagency meeting will be internal-USG only and will provide each agency the opportunity to present its new 5-year commitment for FY2016-2020. Over the following days we will then compile individual agency commitments into a comprehensive U.S. commitment to this sector to announce in November at the Alliance's pledging conference to be co-hosted by Alliance Chairwoman and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Our commitment will in turn allow the Alliance to leverage hundreds of millions of dollars of additional commitments from partner countries.

We have the exceedingly rare opportunity to remedy one of the world's most pervasive and unjust, yet solvable, risks. Our individual motivations may vary across health, climate, economic development, energy, gender, sustainable agriculture, forestry, and more, but it is our collective resolve that will make the difference.

Our second interagency meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. here in my office at EPA. I look forward to seeing you.

Gina McCarthy  
Administrator